

Abstract

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A method for processing a nucleic acid sample contained in a liquid comprises: (a) introducing said liquid into a chamber (41) of a cartridge (42) which contains a chip shaped carrier (44) having an active surface (45) which carries an array of oligonucleotides, said active surface (45) facing the inner surface of a wall (46) of said cartridge,

10 said chamber (41) having a narrow interior and including a channel (43), a portion of said channel lying between said active surface (45) of said chip shaped carrier (44) and the inner surface of said wall (46),

15 a rigid segment (47) of said wall (46) being adapted to be swung of a predetermined angle back and forth about a torsion bar (59), swinging of that segment (47) in one sense moving one end thereof towards said active surface (45), and swinging of that segment (47) in the opposite sense moving said one end of that segment (47) away from said active

20 surface (45),

(b) positioning said cartridge (42) into a cartridge holder (56) which holds said cartridge, said positioning being effected before or after introduction of said liquid containing a sample into said chamber (41), and

25 (c) swinging said rigid segment (47) of said wall (46) of said predetermined angle back and forth about said torsion bar (59) in order to cause relative motion of the liquid contained in said channel (43) with respect to said active surface (45) of said chip shaped carrier (44).

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